

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 EURE-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 INRE-00 USIE-00

CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05

PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 ACDA-05 TRSE-00 SAJ-01 AS-01

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FM AMEMBASSY BONN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 1899

AMEMBASSY OTTAWA PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY PARIS PRIORITY

USMISSION NATO BRUSSELS IMMEDIATE

USLO SACLANT

CINCLANT

USNMR SHAPE

CINC EUR VAIHINGEN

C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 01 OF 02 BONN 12540

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: MPOL, GW, US, NATO, CSCE

SUBJECT: EXERCISE REFORGER 75

REFS: A. STATE 182598/1

B. USNATO 3990

C. USNATO 3996

D. USNATO 4064

1. EMBASSY OFFICER MET WITH FONOFF WORKING LEVEL
OFFICIAL RESPONSIBLE FOR CBMS ON AUG. 4 TO FOLLOW
UP ON NATO POLAD DISCUSSIONS REPORTED REFTEL B.

AFTER

REVIEWING THE MAIN POINTS, EXTRACTS OF THE PERTINENT
SECTIONS OF REFTEL A WERE PRESENTED TO THE GERMANS FOR
THEIR CONSIDERATION. AFTER READING THE EXTRACTS, THE
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FRG OFFICIAL INDICATED INTEREST IN WORKING OUT WITH THE

U.S. APPROPRIATE PROCEDURES FOR APPLYING CBMS TO REFORGER. THE FRG BELIEVES IT WOULD BE APPROPRIATE TO ASK OUR NATO POLADS TO CARRY THE BRUNT OF THE WORK SINCE THEY HAVE ALREADY DONE MUCH IN THIS FIELD.

2. WHEN ASKED SPECIFICALLY HOW THE FRG VIEWS THE POSSIBILITY OF INVITING OBSERVERS TO EXERCISE GROSSE ROCHADE, THE OFFICIAL REPLIED THIS WOULD NOT BE AN EASY MATTER FOR THE FRG TO RESOLVE IN TIME FOR THE EXERCISE. HE POINTED OUT THAT THE FRG HAD TRIED AROUND THE TURN OF THE YEAR TO INDUCE THE NATO REPS TO ADDRESS THIS ISSUE. HOWEVER, THERE WAS RESISTANCE TO THE GERMAN INITIATIVE AND THE MATTER WAS ALLOWED TO DRIFT. THE GERMANS NOW PLAN TO WAIT FOR THE ISSUANCE OF A REVISED VERSION OF ISD/94 (REFTEL C) TO SERVE AS THEIR GUIDELINE.

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3. THE MAJOR PROBLEM FOR THE FRG IN INVITING OBSERVERS CONCERNS THE GDR. AS IS WELL KNOWN, NO MILITARY ATTACHES HAVE BEEN EXCHANGED BETWEEN THE FRG AND GDR. THE QUESTION OF THE STATUS -- DIPLOMATIC OR OTHERWISE -- OF ANY GDR OBSERVERS IS ALSO OPEN. WORKING-LEVEL OFFICIALS IN THE FMOD ARE ALSO OPPOSED TO INVITING OBSERVERS BECAUSE OF THE GDR PROBLEM. THE FOREIGN OFFICE BELIEF IS THAT IF OBSERVERS ARE INVITED FROM SOME NATIONS, THEY SHOULD BE INVITED FROM ALL. WHILE THE BASIC FRG POLICY IS TO PROVIDE MORE RATHER THAN LESS INFORMATION, THE SPECIAL CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE FRG-GDR RELATIONSHIP MAY PRECLUDE IMMEDIATE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE POLICY.

4. COMMENT: THE FRG WILL BE HARDPRESSED TO RESOLVE THIS ISSUE EXPEDITIOUSLY SINCE GROSSE ROCHADE IS SCHEDULED
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FOR SEPT. 15 TO 19. ALSO, DECISIONMAKERS ARE ABSENT FROM BONN NOW, AND IT WILL BE ESPECIALLY DIFFICULT FOR THE FRG TO TAKE A DECISION IN HASTE ABOUT MILITARY OBSERVERS FROM THE GDR WHICH COULD HAVE UNEXPECTED DOMESTIC POLITICAL RAMIFICATIONS. END COMMENT.

5. REFTEL D TRANSMITS THE TEXT OF THE GERMAN NOTIFICATION OF EXERCISE GROSSE ROCHADE. WE WERE GIVEN THE GERMAN TEXT OF THE INTRODUCTORY PARAGRAPH, THE FINAL SENTENCE OF WHICH DIFFERS FROM REFTEL D WHICH MAY HAVE BEEN GARBLED IN TRANSMISSION. THE GERMAN VERSION OF THE FINAL SENTENCE OF THE TEXT READS AS FOLLOWS:

"THE EXERCISE OF GROSSE ROCHADE, IN WHICH THE ARMED FORCES OF FRANCE, CANADA AND THE UNITED STATES WILL TAKE PART AT THE INVITATION OF THE BUNDESWEHR, WILL BE HELD FROM SEPT. 15-19, 1975 IN BAVARIA."

HILLENBRAND

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: CBMS, DIPLOMATIC DISCUSSIONS, MILITARY EXERCISES, MILITARY POLICIES, REFORGER 75
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 04 AUG 1975
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: GolinoFR
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1975BONN12540
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D750268-1062
From: BONN
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1975/newtext/t19750882/aaaacuzc.tel
Line Count: 157
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION EUR
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 75 STATE 182598
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: GolinoFR
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 21 APR 2003
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <21 APR 2003 by CunninFX>; APPROVED <22 APR 2003 by GolinoFR>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
06 JUL 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: EXERCISE REFORGER 75
TAGS: MPOL, PARM, US, GE, NATO, CSCE
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 06 JUL 2006